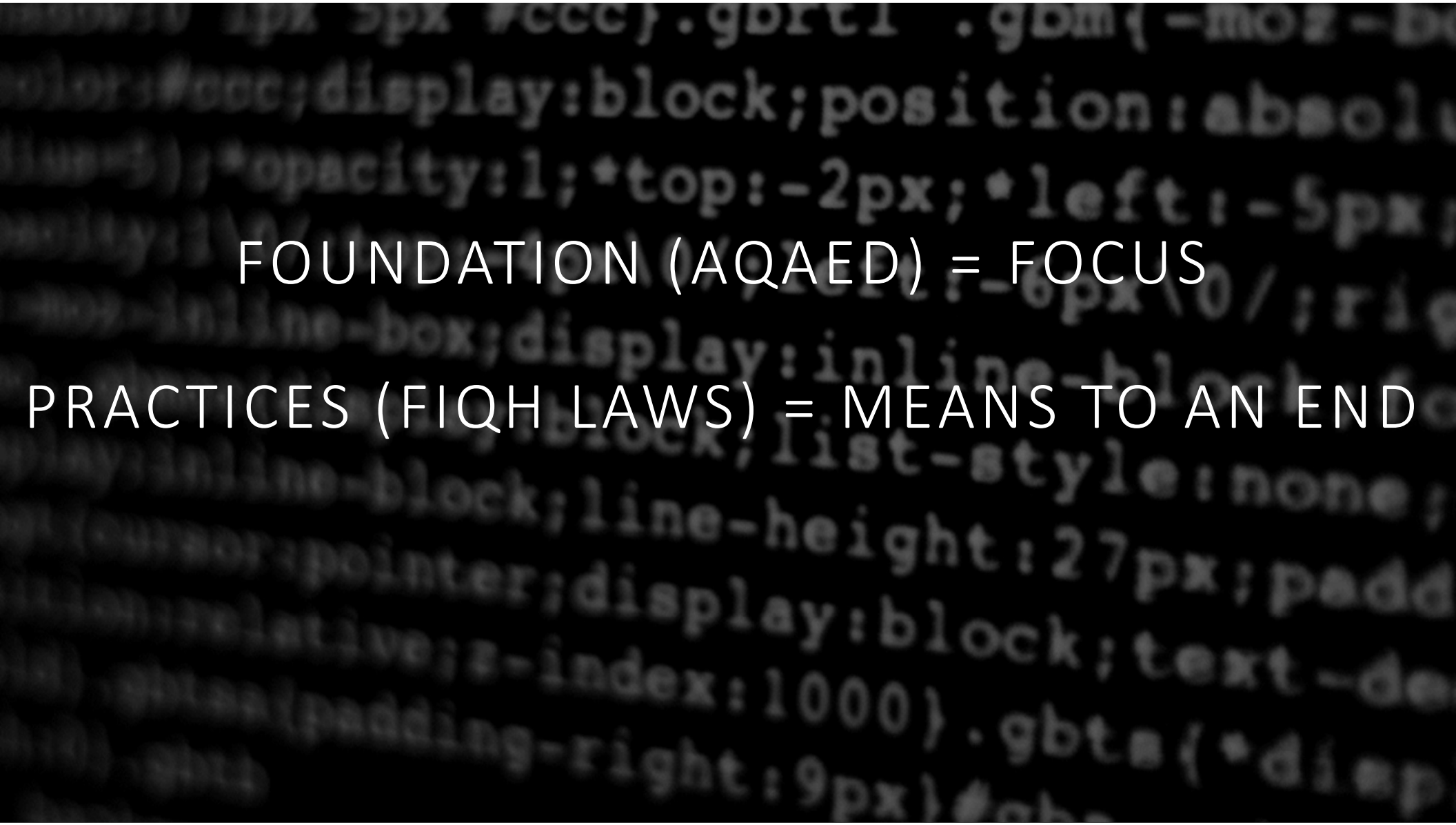
AQAED CLASS
INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS AQAED:
OUR BELIEFS
THE FOUNDATIONS OF OUR RELIGION

INTRODUCTION:

LOOKING AT THE CORE FOUNDATION OF OUR UNDERSTANDING OF ISLAM

-THE POINT IN BEING MUSLIM


FOUNDATION (AQAED) = FOCUS
PRACTICES (FIQH LAWS) = MEANS TO AN END

ULTIMATE GOAL

ACHIEVING CERTAINTY THAT ALLAH S EXISTS

Level of being Muslim:

Muslim – believer; all sects
Momin – lover of MWAM
Moqin – certain of Allah's existence

Dua al-Iftetah:

وَأَيْقَنْتُ أَنَّكَ أَنْتَ أَرْحَمُ ٱلرَّاحِمِينَ
wa ayqantu annaka anta arhamu alrrahimina

I am certain that You are the most Merciful of all those who show mercy - Sahib uz-Zamana AS

ACHIEVING CERTAINTY

- The (Islamic; Religious) laws you follow
- Set up a specific type of lifestyle for you
- You get into a particular groove of thinking and living in
- This sets you up to “live life like the Holy Prophet SWAS”
- **Theory**: If you **live like the Holy Prophet** SWAS, you will start to also think like the Holy Prophet SWAS, IA.

Live like Ali, die like Hussain; Labaika Yaa Hussain wa Yaa Zaharah

THE HOLY PROPHET SWAS WAS HOW CERTAIN ABOUT ALLAH'S EXISTENCE?

CERTAIN ENOUGH THAT….

Although it was the words that came out of the Holy Prophet's mouth, and in his voice, it is now known and recognized as the actual and true word of Allah SWT, and not the Holy Prophet S's own personal words as the Holy Quran.

POINT: Allah SWT trusted the honesty of the Holy Prophet SWAS and knew he SWAS would not take the credit for himself, for the message Allah S sent to man.

WHAT'S THE CONNECTION BETWEEN CERTAINTY AND RELIGION?

The more certain (yakeen) you are that Allah SWT exists:

- The more honestly you will behave
- The more trustworthy you will become
  - The more sincere you will become
  - Iqlass un-niyyah – purity of intention
    - In all that you do, and in how you behave in your day-to-day life; in the way you live

Why?

- Once you have certainty Allah SWT exists
- Your thoughts and actions will become purposeful and refined
- You will want to act and think only in ways pleasing to Allah SWT
- You will do whatever it takes to get increasing control over yourself (i.e. seeking improvement; irfan)

3 LEVELS OF WORSHIP – AMIR AS

1. Free man

- He understands Allah to be worthy of worship

2. Businessman

- He wants something in return; worship for a reward (e.g. like a trained seal or dolphin)
- His heart is more in the reward than in Allah's Worthiness as God, the Almighty.

3. Slave

- He fears Allah's Wrath and Existence
- He doesn't bother putting time in to understanding Allah's Glory
- Shotgun Islam; Methodology taught in traditional hawzas

STUDYING AQAED

It's the Islamic ethics of:

- understanding
- Worshiping Allah

Using your freewill and rational judgement to:

- Recognize the indications of Allah's existence (ayah = signs of Allah's presence)

Using:

- Scientific, Mathematical, and Philosophical truths

To verify what we see in:

- The Holy Quran
- Ahadeeth of Ahl al-Bait AS

OVERVIEW OF TOPICS IN AQAED

These are the main groupings of what we will cover in our aqaed lessons.

There are only five aspects to cover

These are known as the pillars of Islam

They are what guide our practice of fiqh, and they are also strengthened in return for sincerely practicing (correct) fiqh laws

PILLAR	TOPIC	POINT 1	POINT 2
Tawheed	Oness of Allah SWT	His Personal Characteristics	His Actions
Adal	Allah's Justice and Sense of Fairness	He does no evil	He is Sensible
Nabuwwah	Prophethood	124,000 Holy Prophets of God (HPGs)	5 Great Prophets (Noah AS, Abraham AS, Moses AS, Jesus AS, Holy Prophet SWAS)
Imammah	Immamate	12 Infallible Imams AS	Reinforced the Holy Prophet SWAS's message
Ma'aad/Day of Ressurection	Day of Accountability under the Adal of Allah SWT	All individuals from the lineage of Adam AS	Eternal Heaven or Hell, moving forward

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE:

Surah al-mujadila (58:7):
Don't you see that Allah knows everything in the sky and on the earth? When three people talk quietly, Allah is there with them. When five people talk, Allah is also there. No matter how many people are talking, Allah is always with them, wherever they are. Then, on the Day of Judgment, He will tell them what they did. Allah knows everything!

American Poetry – American Irfaan:

"**Somebody's Watching Me**" by Rockwell, December 1983:
Who's watching
Tell me who's watching
Who's watching me
I'm just an average man with an average life I work from 9 to 5, hey hell, I pay the price….
I always feel like somebody's watchin' me
And I have no privacy

"**Every Breath You Take** " by Sting, The Police 1983:
Every breath you take and every move you make
Every bond you break, every step you take, I'll be watching you
Every single day and every word you say
Every game you play, every night you stay, I'll be watching you

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE:

So……

In your continuous life-long Islamic Studies journey of life, what does this mean *to you*?

OUR LESSONS:

Amir ul-Momineen AS: “If you want to understand life, you must first understand death”

Working backwards from a goal:

- Puts you on a straight path
- Helps ensure you have your bearings
- Creates a logical understanding in your thinking

The five pillars of Islam are: Tawhid, Adl, Nabuwa, Imamah, Ma’ad

To follow benefit from Amir AS’s guidance, we will study the pillars in this order:

- Ma’ad
- Imamah
- Nabuwa
- Adl
- Tawhid

OUR LESSONS:

IA, we will approach Aqaed from 3 angles:

- Traditional Islam
- Western Philosophy and Analysis
- Scientific + Mathematical Facts

OUR LESSONS:

Project – What is this important equation?:

$$F_G = \frac{G * m_1 * m_2}{r^2}$$

- What is its name?
- What is its function?; what does it show/say happens?
- What is its implication?

Show your understanding about:

- Why is all this important to know, as Shias of Ahl al-Bait AS?

WAS - SALAM